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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 07MOSCOW1537, NEW RUSSIAN DEFENSE MINISTER STILL AN ENIGMA

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#07MOSCOW1537**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
07MOSCOW1537	2007-04-06 11:39	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Moscow

Appears in these articles:

<http://rusrep.ru/article/2011/02/04/serdyukov/>

VZCZCXRO7112
OO RUEHDBU
DE RUEHMO #1537/01 0961139
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 061139Z APR 07
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8981
INFO RUCNCLIS/CIS COLLECTIVE
RUEHMD/MOSCOW POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RHMFISS/CDR USEUCOM VAHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 001537

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/06/2017
TAGS: [PINR](#) [MARR](#) [MCAP](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [RS](#)
SUBJECT: NEW RUSSIAN DEFENSE MINISTER STILL AN ENIGMA

REF: A. MOSCOW 1144
[1](#)B. MOSCOW 692

C...

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 001537 SIPDIS SIPDIS E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/06/2017 TAGS: [PINR](#) [MARR](#) [MCAP](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [RS](#)
[11](#). (C) SUMMARY: More than a month and a half after his appointment as Defense Minister, Anatoliy Serdyukov continues to take a low-key approach ANOTHER ST. PETERSBURG SON MAKES GOOD
[12](#). (SBU) Appointed Minister of Defense February 15, Anatoliy Serdyukov promptly drew fire from senior military officials, though only retired
[13](#). (C) Aleksandr Golts, a respected defense analyst, was among those critical of Serdyukov's appointment. Golts told us that Serdyukov's inexperience -- BUT RISING -- PROFILE
[14](#). (SBU) Serdyukov has kept a low profile since assuming his new duties. He is apparently getting a crash course in all things military at one
[15](#). (C) As head of the FTS, Serdyukov had established a reputation as a detail-oriented micromanager and ruthless policy administrator in his 20+ years. RIGHT PERSON FOR THE JOB?
[16](#). (C) Other contacts thought Serdyukov was precisely the right prescription for the Defense Ministry. Sergey Sumbayev, a former journalist with
[17](#). (C) Sumbayev did not expect Serdyukov to undertake major defense initiatives, particularly with less than a year to go before presidential elections. STRONG POLITICAL CONNECTIONS
[18](#). (C) Apart from his ties to Zubkov, multiple press reports claim that Serdyukov is allied with the Kremlin's siloviki wing, including Igor Sergeev
[19](#). (C) Serdyukov has his work cut out for him in bringing order to a Ministry badly in need of reform. While he lacks military credentials, Serdyukov's
BURNS